

congrats my colleagues on their success in allowing for the expansion of the provision of until 2032, for 25 years—the longest extension in its history. I must also praise the various civil rights groups who have been extensively campaigning for the renewal of the Voting Rights Reauthorization and Amendment Act.

RECOGNIZING ST. JOHN INSTITUTIONAL MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH OF MIAMI ON ITS 100TH ANNIVERSARY

**HON. KENDRICK B. MEEK**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 22, 2006*

Mr. MEEK of Florida. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to pay tribute to the St. John Institutional Missionary Baptist Church on the occasion of its 100th anniversary on Sunday, June 25, 2006.

Its pastor, the Reverend Henry Nevin, will lead his congregation to celebrate this milestone in the history of this beloved church that has become the Citadel of Faith in Miami's Overtown community. Indeed, St. John's longevity of service is directly related to its essential role in the community and its service to its members and to all those who now seek comfort and solace in its sanctuary.

On June 17, 1906, a group of dedicated Christians decided to build the Second Baptist Church, which came to be known as the New St. John Institutional Missionary Baptist Church. In 1939, the late Sis. Cora Lee Thomas Brown, the only surviving founder at that time, and Sis. Victoria Darry, the first secretary of the Sunday School, provided information to validate the revered history of the Church. It was legally known as the St. John Baptist Church of Miami, Florida, and the Reverend John Bynom was called as the first pastor, while brothers Grant Faulkner and Willis Williams were consecrated as the first Deacons.

In the succeeding years, the membership grew. Their second pastor, the Rev. N.B. Williams, known as a Master Builder, called upon his congregation to consider plans for a permanent location. In January, 1912, the Rev. Jarius Wilkerson Drake arrived in Miami from Jacksonville and assumed the leadership of the church. This pastor succeeded in expanding the congregation to 1,000-members in 1939. The current location of this church was purchased with a \$10,000 deposit at a local bank, and thereafter a building was erected to house the burgeoning membership in the year 1940.

Rev. Drake was God's shepherd par excellence, as he guided and served the congregation well until his death in February, 1951. This Man of God was revered as a fearless leader and community builder whose life was filled with Christian charity on one hand and civic pride on the other. He was soon followed by Rev. Thedford Johnson during the latter part of 1951, who proficiently guided the church into a veritable sanctuary of worship and learning, as he created a good mixture of religion and civic responsibility that would strengthen church members not only to become spiritual and moral leaders, but also as responsible and conscientious guardians of good government and civic pride.

On April 17, 1982, the Rev. Charles Uptgrew succeeded Rev. Johnson, and on

March 28, 1985 the Rev. Henry Nevin was appointed pastor and continues in this capacity until the present. He has emphasized Bible Study classes for the members of his congregation, and this focus gave way to the continuing enhancement of church membership amidst constant worship and praise to Almighty God. Through the genuine efforts of the current pastor, the faith-action service that now defines the St. John Institutional Missionary Baptist Church has truly persevered in showing its congregation the way and expounding for its membership the Truth that emanates from the study of Holy Scriptures.

Rev. Nevin's inspiring leadership is genuinely admirable. As a servant of God and as a deeply spiritual leader immersed in Scriptural commitment, he has earned the deepest respect and superlative commendation of our community. We therefore congratulate the members on their Centennial Celebration of their venerable Church and wish them continued success as they begin a new century of service.

SUPPORT FOR H. RES. 323, H. RES. 863 AND H.R. 1245

**HON. DAN BURTON**

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 22, 2006*

Mr. BURTON of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, earlier today the House overwhelmingly approved House Resolution 323—a resolution I am proud to be a co-sponsor of—offered by my good friend Congresswoman DEBORAH PRYCE of Ohio. H. Res. 323 is a straightforward bill which expresses the House of Representatives' support for increasing childhood cancer awareness, treatment, and research.

The word "cancer" evokes powerful emotions. Along with many of my colleagues, I know first-hand how devastating cancer can be to the individual who has been diagnosed, as well as their family. It is thankfully true that more and more people are continuing to lead full and productive lives both during and after cancer, but the sad fact is that lives once touched by this insidious disease are never truly the same again. The tragedy perhaps becomes even worse when cancer invades the life of a child.

I pray for the day when a cure is found and cancer is finally and forever eradicated from the face of the earth. In the meantime, as my colleague Mr. DEAL of Georgia said in his remarks, through research, public awareness, education and wise public policy, we can make powerful strides towards winning the fight against childhood cancer. I hope that the resolution we passed today will help call attention to the problem of childhood cancer and the importance of bringing improved diagnosis and treatment techniques to bear in this life and death struggle. I commend Ms. PRYCE for her leadership on this issue, and I applaud all of my colleagues for their support of this critically important resolution.

But I believe we can do more and that we should do more to address the scourge of cancer before this Congress adjourns for the year.

For example, prostate cancer is the second most common cancer in the United States. It is also the second leading cause of cancer re-

lated deaths in men, claiming around 27,000 lives in 2005 alone according to the National Prostate Cancer Coalition. According to the National Cancer Institute, in 2005 our Nation likely saw more than 230,000 new cases of prostate cancer, meaning that some 2 million American men are living with prostate cancer at this time. Statistics also tell us that prostate cancer will strike one in six men. Yet tragically, the state of prostate cancer care is decades behind what it should be.

The current screening methods of digital rectal exams and PSA blood tests are good tools—but they are not enough. A study funded by the National Cancer Institute showed that PSA blood screening tests, the most common form of testing for prostate cancer, result in both false positives and false negatives. In fact, as evidence suggests that as high as 15 percent of men with normal PSA levels actually have prostate cancer. We need to start getting serious about our diagnostic and treatment options. I firmly believe that men need to continue to get tested, even with the chance that the results may be misleading at times but I also firmly believe that we should not be satisfied with the current state of care. Our fathers, our brothers and our sons deserve more accurate technology, more reliable weapons in the fight against prostate cancer—tools like digital imaging.

That is why I am proud to co-sponsor—along with my colleague from Maryland, Mr. CUMMINGS—House Resolution 863, to bring attention to the urgent need to develop better tools in the fight against prostate cancer. Our Resolution simply expresses the sense of the House of Representatives that Congress and the Executive Branch should recognize the successful use of advanced imaging technologies in the fight against breast cancer and provide additional support for the research and development of technologies for prostate cancer detection and treatment comparable to state-of-the-art mammograms.

Likewise, I am a proud co-sponsor and passionate supporter of Johanna's Law: "The Gynecologic Cancer Education Act (H.R. 1245)". Ovarian Cancer is the deadliest of the gynecologic cancers, and it is the fourth leading cause of cancer death among women living in the United States. In 2004, it is estimated that over 25,000 women were diagnosed with ovarian cancer, and an estimated 16,000 or so American women died as a result of this devastating disease. This is a national tragedy, and what makes it even more tragic is the fact that many of those deaths could have been prevented if more women and their doctors knew the risk factors and recognized the early warning signs of ovarian cancer and other gynecological cancers.

When it is detected early, ovarian cancer is very treatable, unfortunately, ovarian cancer is one of the most difficult cancers to diagnose because symptoms are sometimes subtle and may be easily confused with those of other diseases. As a result, only 29 percent of ovarian cancer cases in the U.S. are diagnosed in the early stages. When the disease is detected before it has spread beyond the ovaries, more than 95 percent of women will survive longer than five years. But, in cases where the disease is not detected until it reaches the advanced stage, the five-year survival rate plummets to a devastating 25 percent.

As there is still no reliable and easy-to-administer screening test for ovarian cancer, like